

# DIARY LOVES

*Glimpses into the intimate secrets of girls in love*

"WAS I AFRAID TO FALL  
IN LOVE? I NEVER BEFORE  
KNEW THE FEELING OF A  
MAN'S LIPS ON MINE!"

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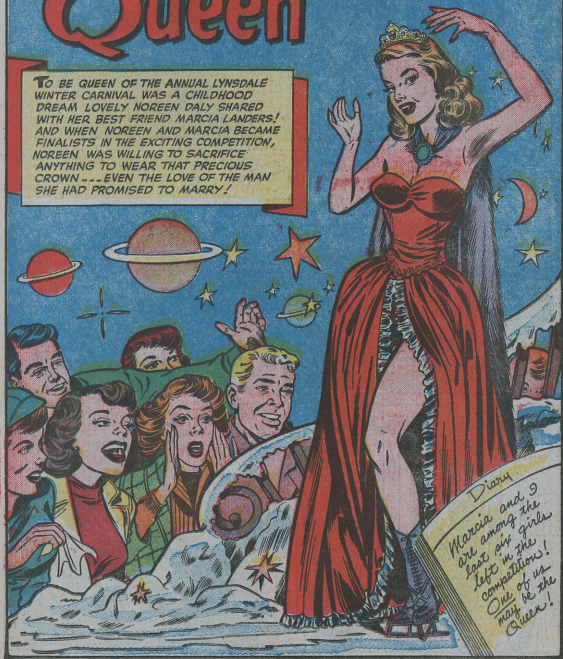
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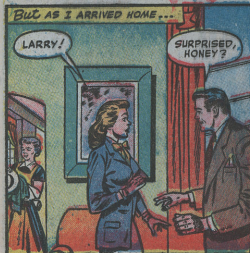
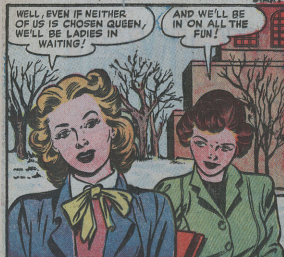
# Winter Carnival Queen

TO BE QUEEN OF THE ANNUAL LYNNSDALE WINTER CARNIVAL WAS A CHILDHOOD DREAM. LOVELY NOREEN DALY SHARED WITH HER BEST FRIEND MARCIA LANDERS! AND WHEN NOREEN AND MARCIA BECAME FINALISTS IN THE EXCITING COMPETITION, NOREEN WAS WILLING TO SACRIFICE ANYTHING TO WEAR THAT PRECIOUS CROWN --- EVEN THE LOVE OF THE MAN SHE HAD PROMISED TO MARRY!



Diary  
Marcia and I  
are among the  
last six girls  
left in the  
competitions!  
One of us  
may be the  
Queen!

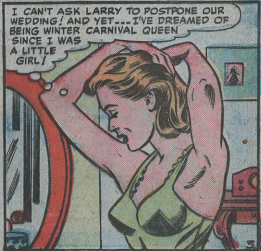








BUT THOUGH I ADORED LARRY, MY HAPPINESS WAS MARRED BY ONE DISTURBING THOUGHT! THAT NIGHT...





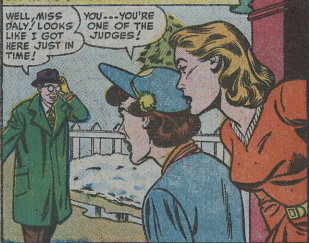
BUT THE PROBLEM THAT HAD WRACKED ME ALL NIGHT BECAME INSURMOUNTABLE THE NEXT AFTERNOON!



LET'S GO, NOREEN! MAYBE WE'LL FIND OUT WHO WON AT THE SKATING PARTY!

BESIDES, LARRY IS GOING TO MEET ME AT THE ICE POND!

BUT AS WE STEPPED OUT OF THE DOOR---



WELL, MISS DALY! LOOKS LIKE I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME!

YOU... YOU'RE ONE OF THE JUDGES!



I'M THE LUCKY JUDGE WHO GETS TO TELL YOU THE GOOD NEWS, MY DEAR!

GOOD NEWS? THEN I---



YOU'RE LYNDSDALE'S WINTER CARNIVAL QUEEN, MISS DALY! CONGRATULATIONS!

I... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!



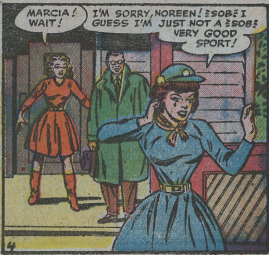
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO BE A MIGHTY BUSY GIRL FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS! OH, ER... MISS LANDERS!

Y-YES?



MEETING YOU HERE SAVES ME A TRIP TO YOUR HOME! YOU WERE A CLOSE SECOND! I'M SURE YOU'RE HAPPY TO HEAR THAT, TOO!

I'M... VERY HAPPY! SOB!



MARCIA! WAIT!

I'M SORRY, NOREEN! SOB! I GUESS I'M JUST NOT A VERY GOOD SPORT!



**TORN**  
BETWEEN  
SYMPATHY  
FOR MARCIA,  
AND ELATION  
OVER MY  
GOOD  
LUCK, I  
WENT TO  
THE SKATING  
PARTY TO  
DISCOVER  
THAT THE  
NEWS HAD  
LEAKED  
OUT! -



BUT AS I BEGAN TO ENJOY THE THRILL OF BEING QUEEN...



YOU MEAN YOU HAVEN'T HEARD? SOMEBODY'S KIDDING ME!

NOREEN'S BEEN CHOSEN QUEEN OF THE WINTER CARNIVAL!



IS THAT SO HARD TO BELIEVE, LARRY?

WELL, NO, BUT... THE CARNIVAL IS STILL A MONTH OFF!



BY THAT TIME YOU AND I WILL BE MARRIED! YOU WON'T EVEN BE IN LYNSDALE!



OH, LARRY, COULDN'T THAT WAIT?

MY JOB WON'T WAIT, HONEY! AND... YOU CERTAINLY DON'T WANT OUR MARRIAGE TO WAIT FOR A... A THREE-DAY SHINDIG!





HEARTBROKEN BY LARRY'S ATTITUDE, I PLEADED WITH HIM FOR HOURS AFTERWARD!

DON'T YOU SEE, LARRY! I CAN'T TURN DOWN A CHANCE TO BE QUEEN! I STARTED DREAMING ABOUT THIS WHEN I WAS FIVE YEARS OLD!

THEN IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU THAN BECOMING MY WIFE!



THAT ISN'T SO! BUT YOU COULD TRY TO UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH THIS MEANS TO ME!

LOOK, I HATE TO SEE YOU DISAPPOINTED!



BUT MY NEW JOB IS THE RESULT OF THREE YEARS OF HARD WORK! IT'S IMPORTANT TO OUR FUTURE!

THEN YOU WANT ME TO TELL THE JUDGES I CAN'T ACCEPT THEIR DECISION?



I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO, NOREEN!

WELL, I WON'T DO IT! I CAN'T!



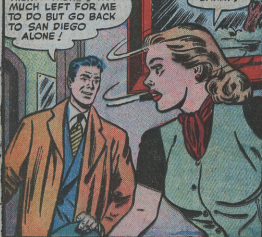
THAT'S YOUR FINAL DECISION?

YES! YES, IT IS, LARRY! IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME YOU'D BE WILLING TO WAIT! YOU'D WANT TO SEE ME HAPPY!



THEN...THERE'S NOT MUCH LEFT FOR ME TO DO BUT GO BACK TO SAN DIEGO ALONE!

LARRY!



GOOD LUCK, NOREEN! MAYBE IT'S BETTER THAT I FIND OUT WHERE I STAND NOW!

YOU DON'T LOVE ME! SOBE! YOU'VE NEVER REALLY LOVED ME!





LARRY HAD WALKED OUT OF MY LIFE! IT SEEMED LIKE SOME UNBELIEVABLE NIGHTMARE AND IT WAS WITH A HEAVY HEART THAT I BEGAN MY WHIRL AS LYNSDALE'S QUEEN THE NEXT DAY!

I'VE NEVER OUTFITTED A LOVELIER QUEEN! AND JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE YOUR LADIES IN WAITING!

I'M SURE THEY'LL BE LOVELY! LARRY'S GOING AWAY! I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN!



BEAUTIFUL! THEY DID CHOOSE THE RIGHT GIRL, NOREEN!

MARCIA!



I...WANT TO APOLOGIZE FOR ACTING LIKE SUCH A BABY THE OTHER DAY! I SORT OF FORGOT THE PROMISE WE MADE, DIDN'T I?

I UNDERSTOOD, MARCIA!



AND I AM HAPPY FOR YOU! A QUEEN ONE DAY, A BRIDE THE NEXT!

I'M...NOT GOING TO BE A BRIDE, MARCIA!



I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT!

IT'S TRUE! LARRY AND I HAVE CALLED OFF OUR WEDDING! I REALIZED THAT...WE DIDN'T REALLY LOVE EACH OTHER!



BUT THOUGH I SPOKE GLIBLY, MY HEART CRIED OUT FOR LARRY! IN THE WHIRLWIND DAYS THAT FOLLOWED...

DON'T FORGET THE QUEEN'S BANQUET IS FRIDAY NIGHT!

COME IN FOR ANOTHER FITTING TOMORROW!

OH, LARRY, I'M SO MISERABLE! I CAN'T GO ON WITHOUT YOU!

WE'RE GIVING A PARTY IN YOUR HONOR TONIGHT!





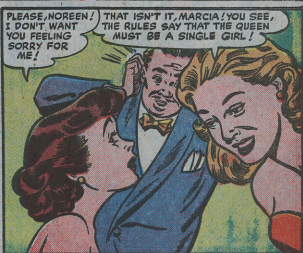


But I DIDN'T TELL LARRY OF THE TURMOIL IN MY HEART! INSTEAD, MISERABLE, I HURRIED TO THE LYNDALE HOTEL!





DIARY LOVES



# BAD COMPANY



BEING A CIGARETTE GIRL IN THE CAMEO CLUB PROVIDED A GOOD LIVING BUT LED ME INTO TROUBLE! RODDY PARKS SEEMED LIKE A RIGHT GUY! HOW COULD I KNOW HE WAS BAD COMPANY?

Dear Diary  
I haven't written  
in you for awhile  
so I'll try to  
date you up to  
I liked my job  
as a cigarette girl  
except for the  
boldness of some  
customers.  
That's the way  
this all began

HI, CUTIE! HOW ABOUT COMING OUT WITH ME AFTER THE CAMEO CLOSES TONIGHT?

NO, THANKS! CARE FOR CIGARETTES?

NOT ME! I JUST CARE FOR YOU!

LET THE LITTLE GIRL ALONE! SHE BELONGS TO ME!





DIARY LOVES



SEE YOU LATER, SWEETHEART!

SURE!

I NEVER SAW THAT FELLOW BEFORE BUT HE SAVED ME FROM AN EMBARRASSING SITUATION! I MUST THANK HIM!



HE CAME TO THE LOBBY LATER AND WE INTRODUCED OURSELVES AND I AGREED TO JOIN HIM FOR A SNACK AFTER I WAS FINISHED AT THREE! I COULD HARDLY REFUSE AFTER THE WAY HE HAD COME TO MY RESCUE!



JOYCE STEVENS, EH? NICE NAME! THERE'S A PLACE DOWN THE STREET THAT STAYS OPEN ALL NIGHT! OKAY!

WHATEVER YOU SAY, MR. PARKS!



HI, ROD! WE WANTA TALK TO YOU!

SOME OTHER TIME! TABLE FOR TWO, BARNEY! CAN YOU SCARE UP SOMETHING TO EAT?

IT WAS A DINGY SPOT AND I DIDN'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF IT AT FIRST! BUT RODDY WAS SO FRIENDLY THAT I SOON FELT EASY AND ENJOYED MYSELF! AND WHEN HE TOOK ME HOME...



HOLD THE CAB, DRIVER! HE'LL BE BACK IN A MINUTE!

I HAVE A SMALL APARTMENT HERE! THE BUILDING'S NOT TOO GOOD BUT IT'S ALL I CAN AFFORD!



IT'S OKAY, BABY, AND SO ARE YOU! SEE YOU AT THE CAMEO CLUB AGAIN TOMORROW NIGHT!

I'LL LOOK FORWARD TO THAT, RODDY!



I SAW HIM EVERY NIGHT AFTER THAT! THEN...

I'M CRAZY ABOUT YOU, SWEETHEART! LOVE ME A LITTLE?

YOU KNOW I DO!

DIARY LOVES



GOOD! THEN YOU'RE MY GIRL!

HIS KISS CAUSED RAPTURE TO RUSH THROUGH ME LIKE A RACING FLAMING ROCKET OUT OF CONTROL! I DESIRED HIS KISSES AFTER THAT! I WAS MAD ABOUT HIM! A FEW WEEKS LATER...



RODDY, I WAS AFRAID YOU WEREN'T COMING TONIGHT!

I'M LATE BUT THE BOYS AND I HAD A LITTLE BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO!



BUT YOU SAID...

SHUT UP! GIVE ME THE KEYS TO YOUR APARTMENT! I'LL WAIT FOR YOU THERE! DON'T TELL ANYONE WHERE I AM!



WHY? WHAT'S WRONG?

DON'T ASK QUESTIONS! JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD AND BE QUICK ABOUT IT!

I SOON KNEW WHY HE WANTED TO GET AWAY! HIS TWO COHORTS WERE PICKED UP BY THE POLICE FOR ROBBERY! I FELT NUMB ALL OVER AND WHEN I WENT HOME THAT NIGHT, I PRAYED THAT HE COULD PROVE HIS INNOCENCE!



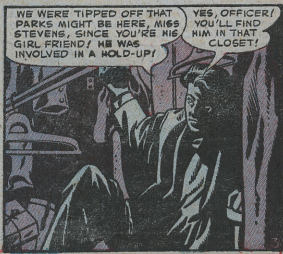
DID ANYBODY FOLLOW YOU HERE?

I DON'T THINK SO! I DIDN'T NOTICE! YOU ARE GUILTY, AREN'T YOU?



DARLING, HOW COULD YOU DO IT?

DON'T BE SO SANCTIMONIOUS! I'VE BEEN IN THIS GAME A LONG TIME! HEY, THAT MAY BE THE COPS!



WE WERE TIPPED OFF THAT PARKS MIGHT BE HERE, MISS STEVENS, SINCE YOU'RE HIS GIRL FRIEND! HE WAS INVOLVED IN A HOLD-UP!

YES, OFFICER! YOU'LL FIND HIM IN THAT CLOSET!



DIARY LOVES

YOU LITTLE  
DOUBLE-CROSSER!  
I WON'T FORGET  
THIS! YOU CAN  
COUNT ON THAT!

I'M GORRY,  
RODDY!  
SORRY IT  
TURNED OUT  
LIKE THIS!



MY  
HEARTBREAK  
WAS BAD  
ENOUGH  
WITHOUT  
HAVING  
TO HEAR  
SUCH  
SLURRING  
REMARKS!  
RODDY  
WAS  
SENTENCED  
TO TWO  
YEARS! AND  
I WAS LET  
IN FOR  
PLENTY OF  
EMBARRAS-  
MENT!

MY CONSCIENCE IS CLEAR BUT  
NOBODY BELIEVES IT! I'M LEAVING  
ALL THIS BEHIND! I'LL GO FAR AWAY  
WHERE NO ONE CAN EVER FIND ME!



I'M YOUR MAN! I'M MATT FOLEY, THE  
MANAGER HERE! I'M LOOKING FOR  
A CASHIER FOR THE DINING ROOM  
IF YOU CARE FOR THE JOB!

I'LL  
TAKE  
IT!



NEWSPAPER  
PARKS PICKED  
UP IN SWEETHEARTS  
APARTMENT!



THAT'S THE  
GIRL! I THOUGHT  
I RECOGNIZED  
HER PICTURE!

IMAGINE GOING  
WITH A CROOK!  
SHE MUST HAVE  
KNOWN WHAT  
HE WAS!



I PICKED AN ARIZONA RESORT-TOWN AT  
RANDOM AND WENT THERE!

CAN I HELP  
YOU?

I WANTED TO SEE  
SOMEONE ABOUT  
GETTING WORK!



MAYBE YOU'D BETTER  
SEE THE SET-UP FIRST!  
AND IT DOESN'T PAY  
TOO MUCH!

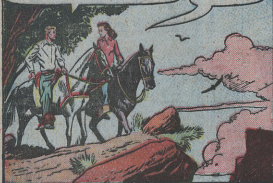
I...I'M SURE I'LL  
WANT IT ANYWAY!  
I... ER... I'D LIKE  
TO STAY IN THIS  
PART OF THE COUNTRY  
FOR A WHILE!



DIARY LOVES

MATT WAS WONDERFUL TO WORK FOR! AND DURING OFF HOURS, WE SPENT A LOT OF TIME TOGETHER!

THERE'S A GOOD VIEW UP HERE! OH, IT'S BEAUTIFUL!



THIS IS FAR DIFFERENT FROM THE CITY LIFE I'VE KNOWN! I LIKE IT!

I HOPE YOU LIKE IT WELL ENOUGH TO STAY!



AS THE WEEKS PASSED, I LEARNED TO LOVE MY NEW SURROUNDINGS...AND MATT FOLEY! THE EPISODE WITH RODDY SEEMED LIKE UNREALITY!

I LOVE YOU, JOYCE! WILL YOU MARRY ME, DARLING?

BUT YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ME! YOU...



I KNOW ALL I NEED TO KNOW! IF YOU COULD BE HAPPY HERE...

OH, YES, MATT! AND I LOVE YOU, TOO!



THEN THAT'S MY ANSWER!



HOW DIFFERENT WERE THE TWO MEN WHO HAD COME INTO MY LIFE! RODDY HAD AROUSED A RIOTOUS SORT OF EMOTION IN ME! MATT MADE ME FEEL SERENE AND SECURE!

IT'S THE PEACE AND CONTENTMENT I'VE ALWAYS LONGED FOR! I'VE FINALLY FOUND HAPPINESS!



I TOLD YOU I WOULDN'T FORGET, YOU LITTLE SQUEALER! I SAID I'D GET EVEN!

RODDY!

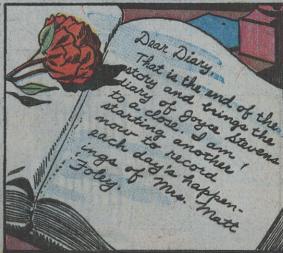
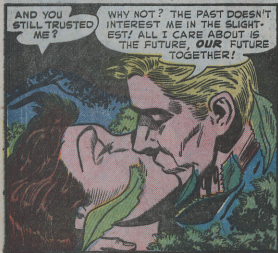




DIARY LOVES

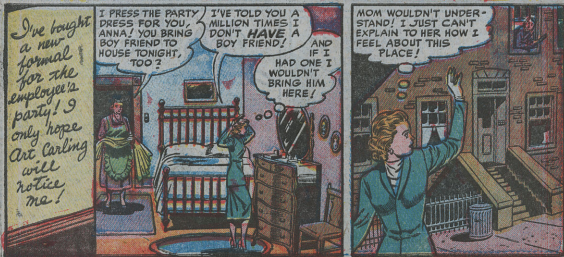


MY HEAD SPUN AND THINGS WENT BLACK! MATT GRABBED RODDY'S GUN AND A WHILE LATER, THE POLICE CAME AND PICKED HIM UP! I FELT SICK AND ONE THING WAS CERTAIN I HAD TO TELL ALL! WHEN IT WAS ALL OVER, MATT INSISTED I GET SOME FRESH AIR!



**I**N THEIR OWN WAY, I SUPPOSE MY PARENTS WERE WONDERFUL PEOPLE, BUT SOMEHOW THEIR UNPOLISHED MANNERS AND BROKEN ENGLISH LOOMED AS A BARRIER TO MY DREAM ROMANCE WITH ART CARLING! WHEN THE DREAM BECAME A REALITY, THE THOUGHT OF MY FOLKS MEETING HIM STRUCK

# TERROR in my HEART





I LIKED WORKING AS HOSIERY SALESGIRL FOR CARLING BROTHERS' DOWNTOWN STORE! BUT, BEST OF ALL, I LIKED THE POSSIBILITY THAT ART CARLING WOULD SOMEDAY STOP AT MY COUNTER FOR MORE THAN THE USUAL PLEASANT BUSINESS CHATTER!



ON YOUR TOES, HONEY! JUST GOT WORD THAT YOUR LOVER BOY IS ON HIS WAY!

OH, MARGE, STOP YOUR KIDDING!

WELL, YOU CAN DREAM, CAN'T YOU? OOPS, HERE HE COMES!

HE'S NICE! BUT, WHY WOULD HE EVEN BOTHER TO GIVE A POOR SALESGIRL A SECOND LOOK?



GOOD RECEIPTS FROM YOUR DEPARTMENT LATELY! KEEP IT UP, ANNA!

THANK YOU... MR. CARLING!



THE NEARNESS OF HIM SENT MY BLOOD SURGING!

HOPE YOU'RE COMING TO THE EMPLOYEES' PARTY TONIGHT! AND HOW ABOUT SAVING A COUPLE OF DANCES FOR ME?

WHY... OF COURSE, MR. CARLING!



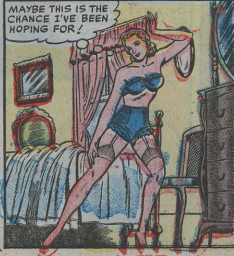
GOSH, HE ASKED ME FOR A DANCE TONIGHT!

OH, BROTHER, THE LOVE BUG SURE GOT YOU!



THE PROSPECT OF THE BIG CARLING BROTHERS' EMPLOYEES' PARTY AND THE MERE THOUGHT OF BEING IN ART'S ARMS FILLED ME WITH ECSTATIC ANTICIPATION!

MAYBE THIS IS THE CHANCE I'VE BEEN HOPING FOR!



THE PARLOR IS CLEAN AND NICE, ANNA! MAYBE YOU BRING BOYFRIEND HERE AFTER DANCE, EH?

OH, MOM, IT'S JUST AN EMPLOYEES' PARTY! I'LL PROBABLY COME HOME ALONE!



NOT EVEN IN MY DREAMS HAD ART CARLING BEEN AS ATTENTIVE AS HE WAS THAT EVENING!



ANNA! I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU!

MR. CARLING! THANK YOU... I...



HAVING FUN?

OH, YES, ART! BUT YOU ASKED FOR ONE DANCE AND THIS IS OUR SEVENTH!



IT'S A WONDERFUL PARTY!

NOT HALF AS WONDERFUL AS YOU ARE, ANNA! LET'S STEP OUT FOR A BREATH OF AIR... I'D LIKE TO KNOW A LOT MORE ABOUT YOU!

The EVENING HAD BEEN SO GLORIOUS THAT WHEN ART ASKED ABOUT MY FAMILY AND HOME, I COULDN'T BEAR TO TELL HIM THE TRUTH!



...SO, THE DANCES AT DAD'S COUNTRY CLUB... AND MOM'S SOCIAL ACTIVITIES KEEP ME BUSY MOST OF THE TIME!

UH, UH! LOOK, I HAVE AN IDEA! LET'S LEAVE THE PARTY NOW AND I'LL DRIVE YOU HOME!



YOU LOOK UNEASY, ANNA! SOMETHING WRONG?

NO... NO, EVERYTHING'S... WONDERFUL!

I CAN'T LET HIM SEE THAT TERRIBLE NEIGHBORHOOD! I CAN'T LET HIM MEET MY FOLKS!



DARLING, I'VE BEEN WANTING TO DO THIS SINCE THE FIRST TIME I SAW YOU!

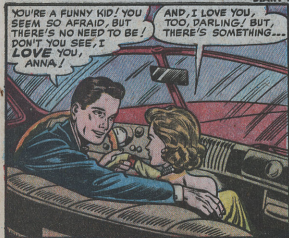
NO, ART, PLEASE! YOU MUSTN'T!



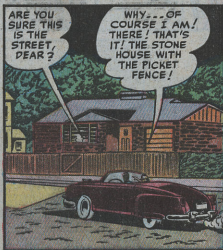
OH, ART, I LOVE YOU SO AWFULLY MUCH! BUT HOW LONG CAN I GO ON LYING TO YOU?



DIARY LOVES



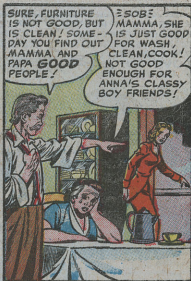
**E**VEN THOUGH I REALIZED THAT THE COURSE I SET WOULD MEAN LOSING THE ONLY LOVE I HAD KNOWN, I COULDN'T BEAR THE THOUGHT OF INTRODUCING ART TO THE SQUALOR AND POVERTY OF MY HOME! IMPULSIVELY I GUIDED HIM TO AN UNFAMILIAR SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD!



I CHOKED BACK THE TEARS UNTIL ART WAS OUT OF SIGHT! THEN, EMBARRASSED AND AFRAID, I FOUND MY WAY BACK TO THE SECOND FLOOR FLAT I HAD LEARNED TO ABHOR!



DIARY LOVES





I LAUGHED AT MARGE'S WORDS! BUT AT FIVE-THIRTY, I BEGAN TO WONDER!

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE STILL WAITING FOR LOVER-BOY?

GET WISE, HONEY! ART CARLING'S A LITTLE OUT OF YOUR CLASS!

CARLING BROTHERS INC.

YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS! ART'S PROBABLY BEEN DELAYED A FEW MINUTES! HE'LL BE HERE!

HAVE IT YOUR WAY, ANNA! BUT I WOULDN'T HOLD MY BREATH, IF I WERE YOU!

And AN HOUR LATER!

THE GIRLS WERE RIGHT! ART NEVER INTENDED TO KEEP THAT DATE! HE...HE'S PROBABLY FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT ME!

WHAT A FOOL I'VE MADE OF MYSELF! AND TO THINK I BELIEVED HIM! BELIEVED THAT HE LOVED ME!

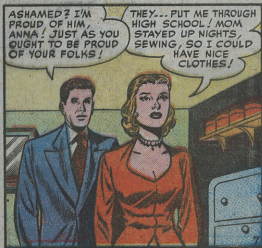
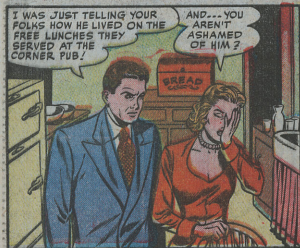
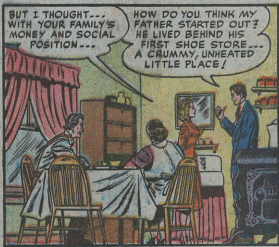
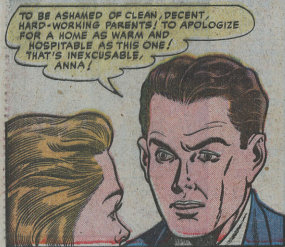
**But**  
I WAS IN FOR A GREATER SHOCK! AS I APPROACHED MY DETESTED HOME, THE SIGHT OF ART'S EXPENSIVE CAR, PARKED AT THE CURB, STABBED ME LIKE A KNIFE!

OH, NO! NO... IT CAN'T BE!

I SUPPOSE HE CAME TO SEE HOW "THE OTHER HALF" LIVES! WELL, I'LL TELL ART CARLING WHAT I THINK OF HIM!

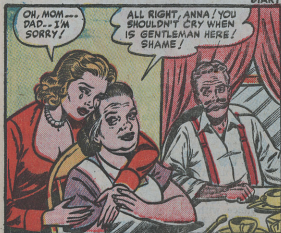
WHAT A NASTY TRICK! I ONLY HOPE YOU'RE SATISFIED!

ANNA! PLEASE LET ME EXPLAIN...





DIARY LOVES



Art and I  
will be married  
soon, Dear  
Diary! And  
Mom and Dad  
are as proud  
of us--- as  
we are of  
them!

Ah so!  
Charlie Chan

# My Mother's Diary

JIMMY held me in his arms and I had never been so happy in my life. The whole world was ahead of us, the world we would share together. We were both only eighteen and we knew we couldn't get married right away but we could plan and work toward it. I didn't want to leave Jimmy but he insisted.

"Look, honey," he said, "it's getting late and we both have to get up early in the morning. So we'd better call it a night, huh?"

"I suppose," I answered reluctantly, "but I don't like to be away from you. Not even for a little while."

"I know," he said as he helped me out of his rather rickety convertible. "I feel the same way. But it has to be."

He kissed me at the door as we said goodnight. "Someday," he said, "it won't be like this. We'll be together all the time. That ring was to reserve you for my future."

I looked at the ring that was sparkling on my finger. It felt funny there but so wonderful, too. Suddenly I was anxious to get inside and show it to my mother and tell her that Jimmy and I were engaged. I was throbbing with excitement as I rushed into the house but a wave of cold disappointment hit me as I saw my mother, standing in her robe and eyeing me sternly.

"Where have you been?" she asked. "This is no time for you to be coming home."

I tried to ignore her displeasure. "Jimmy and I have been parked out in front for almost two hours," I explained. "And mother, I have something to show you. This."

I held out my left hand so that she could see the diamond ring on my finger. "Isn't it beautiful? Jimmy and I are engaged."

The stern look vanished from her face. Instead, it was more of an expression of grief. "I disapprove," she said, turning away. "You're too young to make such important decisions."

"Too young?" I protested. "Mother, I'm eighteen years old. We won't get married right away, but I know that I love Jimmy. I'm old enough to know what love is."

"I wonder," she answered, walking toward her room. "I doubt it."

I was furious. "You should talk," I flared back. "You were married before you were my age."

In my room, I felt sorry for what I had said. Mother had been left a widow at an early age and she'd given up a lot for me. I had never talked back before but, coming out of the clouds into such an acid atmosphere, had been the cause of my blowing up. I put on my nightgown and robe and slipped into mother's room. I wanted to tell her that I was sorry.

She was reading a book but she looked up and smiled as I walked into her room. "I'm not very happy about the way I acted, mom," I said. "I guess I wouldn't be able to sleep unless I apologized."

"Maybe I'm the one who should make the apology, Doris," she answered. "What you said set me straight and I was just reading over my old diary."

She looked sort of dreamy and far away as she handed me a small book. "Here," she said. "You may read it if you wish."

I kissed her goodnight and took the diary to bed with me and read it through. It told of her romance with dad and her love for him. One particular day stood out especially in my mind because it was a lot like what had just happened to me. It read:

Dear Diary:

George proposed tonight and I said yes. He gave me a diamond engagement ring and I was thrilled and happy until I came home. My father objects and says I'm too young to be engaged. I've cried all evening. I don't know what to do.

A little farther on, there was the answer!

Dear Diary:

George and I eloped. I hate to hurt my parents like this but he means all the world to me and he always will.

I knew then why mother had given me her diary to read. It was like giving me her blessing. The next morning, when I came down to breakfast, she asked to see my ring.

"It's beautiful, honey," she said. "Much bigger than mine."

I looked at the small diamond above the wedding ring on mother's finger. And I saw the tears in her eyes.

"Sometimes," she said finally, "parents are selfish. We want to keep our children to ourselves. We hate to admit that they've grown up. But your life is your own now, Doris. I want you and Jimmy to be happy."

I believe I've loved mom more since that happened. Jimmy and I are planning to be married and my mother is getting as much of a thrill out of it as we are. She is making curtains for our house and being a wonderful sport. It might not have been that way if it hadn't been for my mother's diary.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THIS ACT OF MARCH 2, 1913, AND JULY 1, 1940 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 333)

1. The name and address of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Everett M. Arnold, Lucas Point, Old Greenwich, Conn.; Editor, Alfred Great, 247 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.; Managing Editor, None; Business Manager, Richard R. Arnold, 247 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.

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EVERETT M. ARNOLD

Publisher.

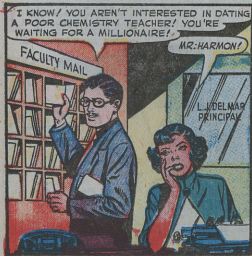
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of September, 1951.  
LOUIS J. KURIANSKY, Notary Public, Commission expires April 1, 1954.



# Kiss of Ecstasy



AS SECRETARY TO A HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, I MET PLENTY OF MEN! NOT THE LEAST OF THEM WAS VIC HARMON!



Dear Diary  
Why must I withdraw into my shell when a man even speaks to me, and then spend my lovely nights dreaming of love? I don't know

I SUPPOSE  
IT WAS  
BECAUSE  
I DIDN'T  
ASSOCIATE  
ALLEN MAYES  
WITH  
ROMANCE  
THAT  
I  
FOUND  
MYSELF  
COMPLETELY  
RELAXED  
IN HIS  
PRESENCE!

IS MR. DELMAR IN HIS OFFICE, MISS GORDON?

HE'S AT A SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING, ALLEN! SHOULD  
BE BACK SOON,  
THOUGH!

I DON'T MIND WAITING  
WHEN THERE'S A PRETTY  
GIRL TO STARE AT  
WHILE I WAIT!

HADN'T YOU BETTER  
SAVE THE FLATTERY  
FOR GIRLS YOUR  
OWN AGE?



WELL, LISTEN TO GRANDMA GORDON! I'LL BET YOU'RE  
NO MORE THAN THREE YEARS OLDER THAN I AM!

OH, I CAN STILL HOBBLE  
ALONG!

OH, YOU DON'T EXACTLY HOBBLE! BUT I DON'T  
KNOW! SEEMS TO ME YOU **DON'T** HAVE TOO MUCH  
FUN!

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT  
**NOTION?**



MAYBE I'VE DRIVEN PAST YOUR  
HOUSE IN THE EVENING AND SEEN  
YOU SITTING ON THE PORCH ALONE!  
MAYBE I'M... **INTERESTED!**

IN **ME!** OH,  
ALLEN,  
**REALLY!**

IS THAT SUCH AN IMPOSSIBLE  
THOUGHT,  
EVE?

I... I DON'T KNOW,  
ALLEN!

LET ME STOP BY FOR YOU TONIGHT...  
PLEASE! WHEN WE LOOK AT EACH  
OTHER THIS WAY, IT SEEMS THAT...  
WE SHOULD HAVE BEEN FRIENDS  
LONG AGO!

YES, ALLEN!... I... FEEL  
THE SAME WAY!





# DIARY LOVES

AND BEFORE THAT DAY HAD ENDED, I KNEW THE EXHILARATION OF MY FIRST KISS!

IT'S BEEN WONDERFUL, EVE, BEING WITH YOU!

AND TO THINK I ALWAYS THOUGHT OF YOU AS ...A SCHOOLBOY! BUT YOU'RE SERIOUS AND ADULT AND...



VERY SERIOUS, VERY ADULT... AND VERY CRAZY ABOUT YOU!

DARLING!



THAT KISS WAS LIKE A CURTAIN OPENING ON A NEW LIFE FOR ME. I SAW ALLEN EVERY EVENING AFTER THAT, SECRETLY, FOR WE BOTH FEARED CRITICISM! AND THEN...

EVE! I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU, IF YOU HAVE A MINUTE!

OH?



LOOK, THIS ISN'T ANY OF MY BUSINESS, BUT...I HATE TO HEAR THE WHOLE SCHOOL GOSSIPING ABOUT YOU!

ABOUT ME? WHY I...



A COUPLE OF THE STUDENTS SAW YOU WITH ALLEN MAYES LAST NIGHT! WORD HAS GOTTEN AROUND ABOUT YOU ROBBING THE CRADLE AND MR. DELMAR'S ANNOYED!

WHY CAN'T PEOPLE MIND THEIR OWN BUSINESS!



I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU THE OBJECT OF A SCANDAL, EVE! YOU...YOU MEAN A GREAT DEAL TO ME!

ALLEN AND I ARE IN LOVE! IS THAT A CRIME? I DON'T WANT YOUR ADVICE OR ANYONE ELSE'S!



# DIARY LOVES

**BUT WHETHER I WANTED ADVICE OR NOT, I GOT IT!**

THIS IS JUST A FOOLISH INFATUATION, EVE! IT'S NOT BECOMING TO A GIRL YOUR AGE! WHY, ALLEN'S JUST A **BOY!**



ALLEN LOVES ME! WHAT CAN ANYONE SAY TO CHANGE THAT?

**THAT EVENING I HAD A SURPRISE VISIT FROM ALLEN'S PARENTS!**

WE HAVE PLANS FOR ALLEN! WE WANT OUR BOY TO GO THROUGH COLLEGE!



BUT I'M NOT TRYING TO RUIN HIS LIFE! WHY DON'T YOU TRY AND UNDERSTAND THAT, MRS. MAYES?

ALLEN'S TOO YOUNG TO BECOME SERIOUSLY INVOLVED! IF YOU REALLY LOVED MY SON, YOU'D LEAVE HIM ALONE!



DON'T! DON'T! PLEASE DON'T! I'M SO CONFUSED AND... MISERABLE!

**BUT ALLEN REFUSED TO BE DISCOURAGED!**

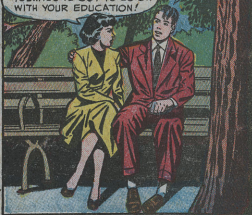
I'M TIRED OF HAVING TO MEET YOU SECRETLY, AS THOUGH WE WERE CRIMINALS!

EASY, HONEY! WE HAVE EACH OTHER AND NOTHING ELSE MATTERS!



SOON AS I GRADUATE, I'LL GET A JOB AND WE'LL BE MARRIED!

OH, NO, ALLEN! YOU... YOU'VE GOT TO GO ON WITH YOUR EDUCATION!



NOW YOU SOUND LIKE MY MOTHER! EITHER WE'RE IN LOVE OR WE AREN'T!

I **DO** LOVE YOU! BUT... YOU HAVE SO MUCH AHEAD OF YOU! I DON'T KNOW, MY MIND'S ALL MUDDLED!



MR. DELMAR AND ALLEN'S PARENTS WERE RIGHT! I WONDER IF LOVE IS WORTH ALL THIS TORMENT?



# DIARY LOVES

GRADUALLY, THE MOUNTING STRAIN OF BEING ADVISED AND WHISPERED ABOUT BEGAN TO TELL ON ALLEN... AND ON ME!

GEE, I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO WAIT SO LONG, EVE! I RAN INTO A COUPLE OF THE FELLOWS AT THE SODA FOUNTAIN... AND...

AND YOU CONSIDERED THEM IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO KEEP ME WAITING FOR TWENTY MINUTES!



I FELT LIKE A FOOL STANDING HERE, EVERYBODY STARING AT ME...

WELL, I HAVEN'T BEEN SEEING MUCH OF MY FRIENDS LATELY!



THEY'VE PRETTY MUCH DROPPED ME FROM ACTIVITIES SINCE THIS OTHER THING BEGAN, ... AND...

"THIS OTHER THING" BEING OUR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER?



I... I DIDN'T MEAN TO PUT IT THATWAY!

BUT YOU **DO** RESENT ALL THE GOOD TIMES YOU'RE MISSING BECAUSE OF ME!



MAYBE I **DO** MISS THE KIDS A LITTLE! CAN'T BLAME ME FOR THAT, CAN YOU?

WHAT ABOUT THE SACRIFICES I'VE MADE?

EVERYONE TALKING TO ME LIKE I WAS SOME WICKED SIREN, LURING AN INNOCENT LAD TO DESTRUCTION! AND GOSSIPING BEHIND MY BACK!



MAYBE I'M TIRED OF COKE DATES AND JALOPY RIDES! I'M... NOT A TEENAGER, YOU KNOW!

I NEVER PRETENDED TO BE A SOPHISTICATED OLD BACHELOR!





NERVOUS AND IRRITABLE, WE FOUND EVERY LITTLE DIFFERENCE THAT HAD BEEN OVERLOOKED IN THE FIRST THRILLING WEEKS HAD NOW BECOME MONUMENTAL!

I'M NOT GOING TO SIT HERE AND ARGUE WITH YOU! I'VE BEEN EMBARRASSED ENOUGH!

EVE!  
WAIT!



OH... WHY DON'T YOU GROW UP!

AND THAT AFTERNOON...

I DON'T LOVE ALLEN! I NEVER DID! I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH LOVE ITSELF!



LOOKS LIKE SOMEBODY ISN'T VERY HAPPY WITH THE WORLD!

GO ON, RUB IT IN! THE BIG ROMANCE IS OVER!



I'M SORRY IF I HURT YOU, EVE! MAYBE I CAN HELP IF YOU TELL ME WHAT'S WRONG!

OH, MY HEART'S NOT BROKEN! I JUST... FEEL A LITTLE GUILTY ABOUT ALLEN!



I'VE REALIZED THAT I MADE A MISTAKE! BUT I **DID** LEAD HIM ON! AND I HATE TO THINK OF... HURTING HIM!

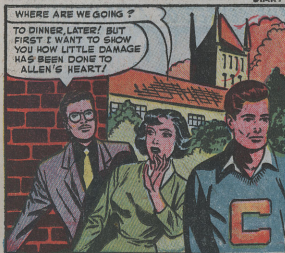
YOU THINK HE'S GOING TO EAT HIS HEART OUT, EH?



WELL, HE **IS** INFATUATED WITH ME!

IF THAT'S ALL THAT'S WORRYING YOU, COME ALONG WITH ME!





AND IN THE ECSTASY OF THAT KISS, I LEARNED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "PUPPY LOVE" AND THE BEGINNING OF A DEEP, LASTING EMOTION!



I'm going to close your pages, Dear Diary! Vic has asked me to marry him and I'll soon be too busy living to write about my life!

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OR YOU PAY NOTHING!

GOLLY, THE BOYS DON'T EVEN NOTICE ME - DOTTY SURE GETS LOTS OF ATTENTION AND DATES SINCE SHE LEARNED TO PLAY THE PIANO - I'LL HAVE TO ASK HER HOW SHE LEARNED SO FAST!



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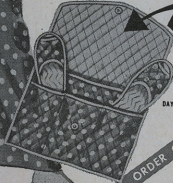
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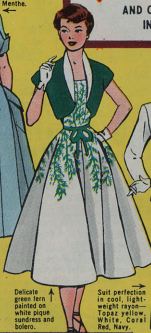
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